



Upper Cumberland Core to College Curriculum Council Feedback October 2nd, 2013

Respondent	1. a. Regular convening of K12/Higher Ed to engage in collaborative, topical discussions.	1. a. Level of Support	1. b. Develop a website/listserv to connect K-12 and higher ed. on existing opportunities within our region.	1. b. Level of Support	2. Revive and expand the Upper Cumberland Teachers Council	2 Level of Support	What additional considerations, concerns, or questions do you have regarding our council?
1.	K12 teachers are key players that should be included in discussions regarding curriculum. Since higher ed personnel indicate a lack of expected entry skills for entering freshmen, it is critical for them to connect with K12 teachers to establish communication about noted deficiencies. I suggest having each high school send departmental representatives to meet with higher ed representatives. February, 2014 might be a good time to have these discussions so K12 personnel can use the information to make revisions.	4	Higher ed representatives will be the key players who have the information needed for developing a website of existing postsecondary options within our region.	4	Having this council established so that meetings can begin early in the 2014-15 school year seems practical.	4	

2.	<p>Improving communication between State agencies and post-secondary should be primary to this work. TTU has excellent communication with K12 in the region already...although I recognize this is not true for all of the higher education institutions in the region. The key players and timeline look good.</p> <p>Possible Topics: integrated math versus traditional (for planning for 2014 implementation) District needs in terms of PD and/or other assistance from higher ed</p>	5	The key players and timeline look good.	5	<p>Key players and timeline look good, except that providing PD in the summer will be very difficult for higher education faculty as many are not on payroll during that time and will choose not to participate. When the UCTC was in full swing in the past, PD was offered in the evenings (one night in the Fall and one night in the Spring). As such, faculty from Arts/Sciences and Engineering were more willing to offer sessions and participate. I fear that summer offerings will result in a smaller number of faculty from those colleges with Education faculty taking the lead. Also, TTU offers summer PD for teachers already and given the number of State and district mandated PD opportunities/trainings in the summer (in recent years), we are getting less participation from the districts than when we offer opportunities during the school year. Perhaps PD offerings should be more regular (one evening/day every other month) and encompass more than just summer offerings.</p>	5	<p>It is my hope that faculty from higher education will not "manipulate" their role on this council to complain to K-12 about under-preparedness of students and to put blame on K-12. Some of this happened at the October meeting and several K-12 commented that it left a sour taste in their mouth concerning this collaboration with higher education. I think higher ed faculty (particularly those outside of education) need some PD training on what Common Core is, and what the districts are being required/mandated to do (so that higher ed understands that K-12 cannot just do what "we" want).</p>
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3.	<p>Discussion Topics: Professional Development and Training (K-12 teacher shadows a Prof. and Prof. shadows a K-12 teacher Collaborative Technology and Practices Standards and Competencies Teaching Methodology Internationalization and Globalization of Education and Course Content</p> <p>A. Regular meetings should occur, but be optimized with content delivered at least one week in advance of discussions so that we can come to meetings where we can continue to be actionable. This time frame will also allow for us to engage in the existing formats of communication that have been established or have yet to be created. It would be ideal to develop a platform where we could facilitate a movement based on meaningful dialogue forms of media/speech that are of no cost. Many conversations could be inclusive and prepare participants for physical face to face conversations via the virtual comunicado.</p> <p>B. Key players should include representation across the Education spectrum within the Upper Cumberland. Our timeline should be a standing meeting every other month but no less than four meetings per year.</p>	5	<p>THEC/CORE offices should play an aggressive role in creating a platform which allows for back and forth communication between K-12 and Higher Education, but does that mean that we also cannot exclude the governing bodies of our systems?</p> <p>A. The Key players would be those who are interested in creating and sustaining collaborative initiatives upon ideals that are shared by all educators and disseminate the information in a chunked fashion for all to provide perspective and insightful solutions. The website and listserv are wonderful opportunities to facilitate and spark interest that leads our regions educational development</p>	5	<p>I cannot expound enough how important it is to have/make time for each other. This is a no brainer .</p>	5	<p>Shall we not consider how to be more inclusive within the teaching and preparation of our teachers with ESOL, Multiculturalism, and Inclusiveness?</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration ...</p>
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4.	<p>Suggested discussion topics...</p> <p>Professional Development opportunities: *communicate to potential participants about approved grant-funded workshops (e.g., THEC ITQ, Race to the Top); *communicate to potential participants and attendees about state and regional conferences (e.g., Tn Reading Association, TTU/IRA, Tn Council of Teachers of English, Tn Math Teachers Assoc), along with funding/support opportunities.</p> <p>Classroom/School Grant opportunities: *grant-writing strategies; *corporate grants (e.g., Lowes, Target, Dollar General) *collaborative opportunities / grant partnerships</p>	5	Of crucial importance: advertising/publicizing the website. Perhaps UC school districts include a link to it on their districts' or/and schools' websites.	5	Its current leader (Kurt Eisen?, Assoc Dean of TTU's College of Arts & Sciences) is wholly the wrong leader, since he's in no way associated with anything related to P-12 education or to TTU's College of Ed. The UCTC needs to be affiliated with TTU's College of Education. TTU has a Teacher Education Committee consisting of TTU and P-12 partners; perhaps this committee could be charged with reviving and expanding the UCTC.	5	
5.	I would like someone to do a presentation on what "common core" refers to for those of us in higher ed.	5	This would be very helpful.	5	Please provide more information on the history and future plans for the UCTC.	3	
6.	I think that Mike Powell, Director of the VSCC Livingston Campus, should be included in future discussions regarding the revival and expansion of the Upper Cumberland Teachers Council. His email is mike.powell@volstate.edu. He was previously involved in similar meetings that have since been discontinued.	5	Yes. This looks good. There should be equal information and opportunities for K-12 and higher ed.	5	I spoke with the Director of Livingston VSCC campus, and he enthusiastically supported this effort.	5	